

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to Claim 4 23, wherein distances ~~(10)~~ between the starting and finish point ~~(2)~~ and the individual turning points ~~(3a-3d)~~ are equal to one another.
3. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to Claim 2, wherein there are more than two turning points ~~(3a-3d)~~ that lie at corners of an equilateral polygon.
4. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 4 23, wherein distances ~~(11)~~ between the measurement devices ~~(6a, 6b)~~ at which the measurement pulses are produced for each out-and-back course ~~(4a-e)~~ and the starting and finish point ~~(2)~~ are all equal.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to Claim 5 23, wherein the distances ~~(11)~~ between places at which the measurement pulse from the first measurement device ~~(6a)~~ is produced for each out-and-back course ~~(4a-e)~~ and the starting and finish point ~~(2)~~ are equal.
7. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to Claim 6, wherein the distances ~~(11)~~ between the places at which the measurement pulse from the second device ~~(6b)~~ is produced for each out-and-back course ~~(4a-e)~~ and the particular turning points ~~(3a-d)~~ are equal.

8. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 4 23, wherein viewed from the starting and finish points (2), an optically or acoustically detectable signaling device ~~(12)~~ is associated with each turning point ~~(3a-d)~~, and the signaling devices ~~(12)~~ can are adapted to be turned on and off independently of one another by means of a transmitter ~~(13)~~.
9. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to Claim 8, wherein only one at a time of the signaling devices ~~(12)~~ can be turned on unpredictably and arbitrarily, ~~while the others cannot~~.
10. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the signaling devices ~~(12)~~ can be turned on by a transmitter ~~designed as~~ comprising a random number generator.
11. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 8, wherein the signaling devices ~~(12)~~ are the same as one another and emit the same signals.
12. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 4 23, wherein the devices ~~(6a, 6b)~~ for producing the measurement pulses contain contactless trip mechanisms.
13. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to Claim 12, wherein the contactless trip mechanisms are light barriers ~~(14+15)~~.
14. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 4 23, wherein the said timing clock is connected to communicate with a display panel ~~(8)~~.
15. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 14, wherein the said devices ~~(6a, 6b)~~ for producing the measurement pulses, the timing clock ~~(7)~~, and any display panel ~~(8)~~, as well as any signaling devices ~~(12)~~, are portable units that can be set up outdoors and under cover.

16. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 4 23, wherein the a communication connection ~~(9)~~ between the devices ~~(6a, 6b)~~ for producing the measurement pulses and the timing clock ~~(7)~~, is wireless.
17. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 8, wherein the connection between the transmitter ~~(13)~~ and the signaling devices ~~(12)~~ is wireless.
18. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 4 23, wherein a hand token ~~(26)~~ to be picked up and carried by ~~the person~~ a runner is associated with each turning point ~~(3a; 3b; 3c; 3d)~~.
19. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 4 23, wherein an electrical circuit ~~(27)~~ is provided to detect, store, and optionally interpret the times ~~(30a; 30b; 30c; 32)~~ for completion of a course and portions thereof.
20. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 4 23, wherein individual components of the measurement system are adapted to be provided with advertising spaces.
21. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 4 23, wherein distance-measuring devices ~~(34a-e)~~ between measurement points act together with a receiver module (33) so that a measurement cycle is activated only at selected distances between prescribed measurement points.
22. (Currently Amended) Measurement system pursuant to claim 4 23, wherein a barrier ~~(35)~~ that cannot be crossed by a runner is disposed between the starting and finish point and a first measurement point.

23. (New) A footrace time measurement system for determining time consumed in running a course and portions thereof selected from a plurality of courses and selected portions of the courses, wherein
- the plurality of courses have a common starting point;
 - the starting point comprises a common finish point for the courses;
 - each of the courses is an out-and-back course and is provided with a turning point, each of said courses extending along a centerline extending from the starting point, the centerlines extending in different directions;
 - a turning point signaling device is disposed adjacent each of the turning points;
 - said turning point signaling device comprises means for producing a signal indicating to a runner at the starting point which one of the plurality of courses is to be run;
 - measurement devices for producing measurement pulses are disposed between the starting point and each of the turning points, and between each of the turning points and the finish point, the measurement devices being adapted to produce a measurement signal when a runner passes the measurement device in a direction from the starting point to a turning point and in a direction from the turning point to the finish point; and
 - a timing clock for indicating a start time at which the turning point signaling device initiates a signal, times at which the measurement devices are activated, and the finish time;
 - wherein for each of the courses there is a measurement device disposed proximate the starting and finish point and another measurement device disposed proximate the turning point.